

Senate Bill 74

By: Senators Powell of the 23rd, Harbison of the 15th, Williams of the 19th, Harp of the 29th, Tarver of the 22nd and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to the University System of Georgia, so as to provide a short title; to
3 provide certain admission standards for certain combat veterans upon making application for
4 admission to member institutions of the University System of Georgia; to authorize the board
5 of regents to promulgate rules and regulations regarding such admissions; to provide for
6 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Returning Hero Education Act."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating
12 to the University System of Georgia, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as
13 follows:

14 "20-3-88.

15 (a) Beginning with those students admitted for the 2007-2008 academic year, each member
16 institution of the University System of Georgia shall admit an applicant to the institution as
17 an undergraduate student if the applicant:

18 (1) Graduated from an eligible high school as defined in Code Section 20-3-519;

19 (2) Is a citizen of the State of Georgia and either is a citizen of the United States or an
20 eligible noncitizen as defined in the federal Title IV requirements; and

21 (3) Served in active duty in the United States armed forces in combat in, but not limited
22 to, Iraq and Afghanistan.

23 To qualify for admission under this Code section, an applicant must submit an application
24 before the expiration of any application filing deadline established by the institution and must

1 meet the qualifications of this subsection and all other nonacademic qualifications of the
2 institution.

3 (b) After admitting an applicant under this Code section, the institution shall review the
4 applicant's record and any other factor the institution considers appropriate to determine
5 whether the applicant may require additional preparation for college-level work or would
6 benefit from inclusion in a retention program. The institution may require a student so
7 identified to enroll during the summer immediately after the student is admitted under this
8 Code section to participate in appropriate enrichment courses and orientation programs. This
9 Code section shall not prohibit a student who is not determined to need additional
10 preparation for college-level work from enrolling, if the student so chooses, during the
11 summer immediately after the student is admitted under this Code section.

12 (c) The board of regents is authorized to adopt rules and regulations relating to the operation
13 of admissions programs under this Code section."

14 **SECTION 3.**

15 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.